4. **Karnataka:** Bijapur, Raichur, Dharwad, Bangalore Rural, Bangalore Urban **(5)**

5. **Madhya Pradesh:** Mandsaur, Gwalior, Ujjain **(3)**

6. **Chhattisgarh:** Durg, Bilaspur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja, Raigarh **(5)**

7. **Maharashtra:** Solapur, Thane **(2)**

8. **Orissa:** Angul, Bargarh, Bolangir, Deogarh, Gajapati (Udaigiri), Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Cuttack, Balasore **(18)**

9. **Rajasthan:** Jaipur, Udaipur, Tonk, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Alwar **(6)**

10. **Tamil Nadu:** Chidambarnar (Tuticorin), Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Kamrajar (Virudhunagar), Vellore, Pudokkotai, Salem, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli **(9)**

11. **Uttar Pradesh:** Aligarh (including DCCW, Aligarh), Firozabad (DCCW Firozabad), Moradabad (DCCW Moradabad), Varanasi, Mirzapur, Bhadohi, Bulandshahr (Khurja), Allahabad, Kanpur (Nagar), Saharanpur, Azamgarh **(11)**

12. **West Bengal:** Burdwan, Dakshin Dinajpur, Midnapore, North 24-Parganas, South 24-Parganas, Uttar Dinajpur, Murshidabad, Kolkata **(8)**

13. **Punjab:** Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Amritsar **(3)**

Model hospitals of ESIC

546. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has decided to set up a model hospital in each district of the country;

(b) if so, the number of ESI hospitals to be computerised during the current year; and

(c) the steps taken to extend ESI hospital facilities to workers in unorganised sector i.e., agriculture, construction, house based workers and beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The ESI Corporation has decided in principle to upgrade one ESI Hospital as a Model Hospital in each State subject to the consent of the State Governments.

(b) 10 ESI hospitals have been taken up as a Pilot Project for computerisation during the current year.

(c) Presently there is no proposal for extending the ESI hospital facilities to workers in the unorganised sector i.e. agriculture, construction, house-based workers and beedi workers. However, beedi workers who are working in the premises of factories manufacturing beedis have already been covered under the ESI scheme.

Persons registered in Employment Exchanges

547. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons registered as on date in Employment Exchanges, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a faet that unemployment situation is growing rapidly in the country;

(c) what are the reasons for this growth of unemployment in the country; and

(d) what steps are being taken to contain unemployment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) State-wise total number of job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Registers of Employment Exchanges as on 31st August 2001, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) from time to time. As per the surveys conducted during 1993-94 and 1999-2000, the number of unemployed persons has marginally gone up from around 75 lakh in 1993-94 to 90 lakh in 1999-2000 as per Usual Status Approach. The main reason for increase in the unemployed persons was that the economy did not grow at the desired rate to provide employment opportunities to all the new entrants to the labour force and the backlog of unemployed.

The Ninth Plan had accorded priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. The Plan had focused on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

A Special Group has been set up by Planning Commission to suggest measures to generate one crore employment opportunities during each year of the Tenth Five Year Plan.